

About the User: David had some familiarity with Archive.org and had used both v1 and v2 on multiple occasions to perform research.

Key findings:

- The user was unable to complete the task of filtering a collection by language.
- The user had a lot of difficulty understanding collection hierarchy and had a hard time differentiating between search results, the homepage and collection pages.
- User expected type ahead or search suggestions on search bars on the website.
- The user was unable to complete the task of sorting the collection by date.
- User expected clicking on the collection header to remove applied filters.
- Book reader vs. PDF view vs. Item Page was confusing for the user.
- User avoided use of the navigation bar and primarily used the homepage for navigation.
- User was unsure from tile what types of media a collection might hold.

Testing Notes

Task 1: Please go to Archive.org

Task 2: Please go to the 'American Libraries' Collection

Task rating: 5 (not easy)

Step A: Complete the task above

David began by scrolling down the home page to look for the American Libraries collection. He stated that he normally does not scroll very far down the page and was surprised to see the long list of collections.

Next he tried using the central search box on the homepage and searched for American Libraries

Step B: What are your first impressions of this page?

David was not sure if the collections listed on the American Libraries collection were part of the collection or not. He seemed to think that potentially he was in a search results page, but he did not feel confident that he was in a collection.

Task 3: How do you think the items in this collection are currently ordered?

Task rating: User could not complete this task

Step A: Complete task above

David was able to locate the sort bar quickly but he had trouble seeing which option was currently selected. He also thought that perhaps the filters and the sort bar affected different parts of the search results area. While spending time on the American Libraries collection he continued to be confused about which part of the interface was a part of the collection and

which part was simply a display of collections / search results. David even went back to the homepage to see if the collection tiles were represented in the same way on the American Libraries collection as on the homepage.

Step B: How would you sort items in this collection by the date they were added to Archive.org, with most recently uploaded items first?

David was unable to complete this task.

Task 4: How would you view only items that are in English in this Collection?

Task rating: User could not complete this task

David began by looking in the Topics area for something that indicated English. He could not find the Language options so he used the search box within the collection along with the media filter of texts. The search term he used was 'English Language,' which yielded results in a number of languages, not just English.

Organize the books by date published

David was able to apply the Date Published sort, but he did not feel like he had appropriate feedback from the system to be sure that he had actually applied the sort. David was not sure how to modify the sort by ascending and descending order (both in list view and in tile view).

Task 5: How would you find an image of "Children Reading" in this collection?

Task rating:

Task 6: Item Details Page

No task rating

David opened a book item and expected to see the cover (what was featured on the collection title) in the media theater. David had no trouble flipping through the pages in the media theater but needed a larger version of the book to read the text, so he clicked into the book reader. Once in the book reader he still had trouble reading the page so he zoomed in and was frustrated that the commands for flipping pages had changed from a click to a drag. David also had some trouble locating the scrollbar, and wished that it was possible to search for a specific page number.

When asked to download the book he was reading in the book reader David began by looking for a download button, he did find the informational popup but after clicking on the PDF link he was able to save the PDF to the desktop.

From the PDF view David was not able to navigate back to the book reader or the details page. Once guided he used the back button and got back to the book reader view. Once in the book reader view he clicked on the IA logo and was sent back to the homepage. With further

guidance he went back to the book reader, clicked on the text link and finally returned to the item page.

Task 7: Where would you go to find out more information about one of the collections?

Task rating:

David began by scrolling down the item page and quickly found the collection field. However, he was still unsure of the provenance of the item or the collection's relationship to the Internet Archive.

Task 8: Please find and go to one of the Archive's software collections

Task rating:

David was familiar with some of the Archive's software collections, so he began his search by returning to the homepage and browsing for an appropriate collection. David had some questions of what would fall under software, for instance OS emulation and video games were genres he wasn't sure would fit under software. He recognized a Mario avatar on the home page and clicked into the 'Speed Runs' Collection, which is actually a Movie Collection.

Once in the collection he still did not notice that the collection did not contain software.

Task 9: Where would you go to find out more information about this collection?

Task rating: 8 (easy)

Step A: Where would you find more information on the collection

David's first inclination was to click on 'show details,' however he quickly found the About tab.

Bonus

David next tried to find what he was initially looking for, emulation of Atari games. David began this task by using the search term 'Atari Game' however he felt very frustrated because he wanted to find a collection, not individual items. He returned to the homepage and began to scroll through the list of Top Collections and became very frustrated.

He then noticed the icons on the homepage above the search bar, he clicked the icon (which he noted felt very small) and found the software collection.

Follow-up Questions

1. How did this interface match with your expectations of using Archive.org, what parts were easy to use and behaved as expected?

David felt just as frustrated with Archive.org V2 as he did with V1. Overall he persists with using Archive.org because of the content. Generally he uses search engines (Google, Duck Duck Go) to locate items in the Archive.

2. In what ways did this interface not match your expectations of using Archive.org, what parts were hard to use, or weren't quite clear to you?

David was not sure how the Archive is organized, and why collection provenance is so exposed. He would prefer to have more stuff hidden under the hood and to use search to surface what he is looking for.

3. If you could change one thing about Archive.org, what would you change?

David would have the Wayback Machine's search bar less prominent than it currently is. He has had trouble before accidentally using this search box in the past.

4. Have you ever created an account on Archive.org, or would you? Why or why not?

David made an account but he doesn't generally use his account.